

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Presently Amended) A domain management system, comprising:
~~means for requesting authentication from a party seeking access to the domain management system;~~

domain identification means, coupled to receive input from a party seeking access to the domain management system, for accepting and confirming identity of a domain name to be an active domain name;

means for determining if the party has authority to alter information about the active domain name and, if the party lacks authority for the active domain name, determining if the party should be given authority for the active domain name; and

information change means for accepting a request to change information about the active domain name, passing an information change request toward a database authoritative for like information about domain names, and generating a confirmation message displayable to a party using the domain management system.

2. (Original) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change means resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

3. (Original) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change means resides on a server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

4. (Original) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the information change means resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

5. (Original) The domain management system of claim 4, wherein the information change request is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

6. (Original) The domain management system of claim 1, wherein the authoritative database is a shared registry system.

7. (Original) A domain management system, comprising:
an authentication interface generator that generates a message that, when received by an operator terminal, at least in part causes display on the operator terminal of a request for authentication from a party seeking access to the domain management system;

a domain identification interface generator that generates a message that, when received by the operator terminal, at least in part causes display on the operator terminal of a request for input from an operator seeking access to the domain management system of a domain name to be an active domain name; and

an information change engine that accepts requests to change information about the active domain name, passes an information change request to an authoritative database for like information about domain names, and generates a confirmation message that, when received by the operator terminal, at least in part causes display of a screen confirming execution of the information change request.

8. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine adapted to receive at least one diagnostic request about the active domain name and to execute a corresponding diagnostic utility.

9. (Original) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a shared registry system when executed.

10. (Original) The domain management system of claim 9, wherein the diagnostic utility produces as an output data representing at least a portion of zone file information.

11. (Original) The domain management system of claim 8, wherein the diagnostic utility accesses a plurality of name servers when executed.

12. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server of an accredited registrar.

13. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

14. (Original) The domain management system of claim 7, wherein the information change engine resides on a server coupled to a second server capable of directly accessing a shared registry system.

15. (Original) The domain management system of claim 14, wherein the information change engine is passed through the second server and to the shared registry system.

16. (Added) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a module that determines whether the operator is authoritative for the active domain name.

17. (Added) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a module that determines whether the operator is authoritative for the active domain name and, if the operator is not authoritative for the active domain name, determining if the operator should be made authoritative for the active domain name.

18. (Added) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name.

19. (Added) The domain management system of claim 7, further comprising a function selection interface generator that generates a message at least in part providing a graphical user interface with a plurality of selectable functions for managing a domain name, the plurality of selectable functions including domain name diagnostics and zone file change.

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20. (Added) The domain management system of claim 17, further comprising a diagnostic utility engine adapted to receive at least one diagnostic request about the active domain name and to execute a corresponding diagnostic utility.